

Message Text

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ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00

CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01

TRSE-00 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 IO-13 /130 W

-----076716 221936Z /46

O 221827Z AUG 78

FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6608

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY SANJOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RIO DE JANEIRO 3748

DEPT: PASS MCCONNELL FAS/USDA/WASHDC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, BR

SUBJECT: IBC ON EFFECTS OF THE FROST

REF: A) 3707 B) 3676 C) 3658 D) 3642

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1. CONGEN E/C OFFICER AND FAS COFFEE SPECIALIST MET AUGUST

21 WITH PAULO MOTTA TO DISCUSS RECENT FROST IN COFFEE

GROWING AREAS. MOTTA IS THE DIRECTOR OF THE PRODUCTION

DIVISION OF THE INSTITUTO BRASILEIRO DO CAFE (IBC).

WITHIN THE IBC THIS DIVISION COOPERATES WITH IBC

ECONOMIC DIVISION FOR CROP ESTIMATES AND, AS A PART OF

THAT RESPONSIBILITY, ESTIMATING THE EFFECTS OF THE
RECENT FROST.

2. THROUGHOUT CONVERSATION MOTTA REPEATEDLY WARNED THAT
IT WAS MUCH TOO EARLY FOR ANY DEFINITIVE ESTIMATE OF
FROST DAMAGE. HE SAID THAT IBC'S INITIAL 1979/1980
CROP ESTIMATE, DUE IN DECEMBER, WOULD BE THE IBC'S EARLIEST
CONPREHENSIVE EVALUATION OF FROST EFFECTS. HE WENT ON
TO CONFIRM PRESS REPORTS THAT IBC'S PRE-FRST GUESSTIMATE
FOR 79/80 CROP WAS 24 MILLION BAGS. FYI: IBC'S PRELIMINARY
ESTIMATE FOR 1979/1980 CROP, AS REPORTED WIDELY IN THE PRESS,
GREW FROM 20 MILLION BAGS ON AUGUST 14 TO 24.3 MILLION BAGS
ON AUGUST 19. END FYI. MOTTA ADDED THAT MEASURING DAMAGE
FROM THIS FROST WAS COMPLICATED BY THE SPOTTY WAY IN WHICH
THE COFFEE TREES WERE AFFECTED (HE LIKENED THE FROST EFFECTS
TO A MOSAIC). HE SAID THAT AS COLD FRONT WITH FREEZING
TEMPERATURE AND COLD WINDS MOVED NORTH IT DIMINISHED IN
INTENSITY. THUS, THE HEAVIEST DAMAGE WAS IN PARANA, LESS
DAMAGE OCCURED IN SAO PAULO AND ONLY "A LITTLE" DAMAGE
OCCURED IN MINAS GERAIS. HE USED A MAP TO POINT OUT THE
AREAS IN SAO PAULO STATE THAT SUFFERED BELOW FREEZING
TEMPERATURES: THOSE AREAS WERE IN THE VICINITY OF THE TOWNS
OF LINS, BAURU AND OURINHOS.

3. MOTTA CHARACTERIZED BRAZILIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF THE
FROST AS INACCURATE. HE SAID JORNALISTS WOULD TALK TO
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ONE FARMER WHO WOULD CLAIM LOSSES OF 90 PERCENT OF HIS COFFEE AND
ON THAT BASIS PROJECT 90 PERCENT LOSSES FOR A WHOLE REGION.
HE SAID THAT IN HIS CONTACTS WITH THE PRESS HE STRESSED
THAT AN EVALUATION OF CROP LOSSES WOULD TAKE TIME BUT SOMEHOW
THESE WORDS OF CAUTION DID NOT WIND UP IN PRINT.

4. COMMENT. MOTTA WAS OPEN AND FRIENDLY THROUGHOUT MEETING.
HE SPOKE FRANKLY ABOUT EXAGGERATED PRESS REPORTS REGARDING
LOSSES AND EMPHASIZED THAT IT WOULD BE SOME TIME BEFORE
ANY DEFINITIVE ESTIMATES OF DAMAGE WOULD BE AVAILABLE.
DEXTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COFFEE, CROP DESTRUCTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978RIODE03748
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780343-0620
Format: TEL
From: RIO DE JANEIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780837/aaaabeto.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: be70635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AGRE
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1660242
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IBC ON EFFECTS OF THE FROST
TAGS: EAGR, BR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/be70635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014